in respect of examination leading to teacher education qualifications and lays down guidelines regarding tuition fee and other fees chargeable by recognised institutions.

(b) As per the revised Regulations notified by the Council in January, 2006 any institution can apply to the NCTE for grant of recognition for starting teacher education courses without mentioning the academic session from which it intends to start the course. The recognition is granted when the concerned Regional Committee is satisfied that the institution fulfils all the prescribed conditions laid down in the relevant provisions of the NCTE Act. Rules and Regulations. Thereafter, the institution applies to/is granted affiliation by the concerned affiliating/examining body for the session for which admissions are being made at the time of grant of recognition.

Vice-Chancellors as CEOs

2455. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to give more freedom, flexibility and accountability for Vice-Chancellors so that they could play the role of CEOs enjoing more authority and autonomy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD.ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Each Central University is governed by its individual Act and the Statutes appended thereto, which provide, *inter-alia,* as under:

— The Vice-Chancellor shall be the principal executive and academic officer of the University, and shall exercise general supervision and control over the affairs of the University and give effect to the decisions of all the authorities of the University.

— The Vice-Chancellor may, if he is of opinion that immediate action is necessary on any matter,exercise any power conferred on any authority of the University by or under the relevant Act and shall report to such authority the action taken by him on such matter,

provided that if the authoriy concerned is of opinion that such action ought not to have been taken, it may refer the matter to the Visitor whose decision thereon shall be final.

Literacy in Delhi

2456. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a place like Delhi many children do not receive any formal education and in the age-group 7-14, eighteen (18) per cent cannot read and write and around 42 per cent in the same age-group can only read the alphabets;

(b) if so, why this situation has developed in Delhi when Mumbai (Maharashtra) and Gujarat have better literacy rate; and

(c) what efforts are being made to improve literacy at least in large metropolitan towns as a special drive keeping same focus and all over the country in the foreseeable future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Utilization of Education Cess

2457. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2 per cent education cess charged on every phone bill, credit card bill and on income tax has been put in a good use;

(b) if so, whether Government spent Rs. 9,988.57 crore in programmes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in 2005-06;

(c) to what extent, it is more as compared to funds spent in 2004-05; and

(d) whether States also released their share timely together with opening balance on April 1, 2005 and the SSA had Rs. 11489.78 crore in store to spend?